



Docket No. 09792909-0431

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:)
Yamaguchi)
Serial No.: 09/675,422) Examiner: Tsang Foster, S.
Filed: September 29, 2000) Group Art Unit: 1745
For: **NONAQUEOUS ELECTROLYTE**)
SECONDARY BATTERY)

AK 5/20
7.23.2002

AMENDMENT "A"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 18, 2001, please consider the following amendments, amended figures, and remarks. Enclosed is a Petition for a three month Extension of Time and a check for the requisite fee, so that the period for response runs to and includes June 18, 2002.

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 22, with the following paragraph:

"In this embodiment, as shown in Fig. 1, the negative electrode 5 comprises particles 17 of a negative-electrode active material which are bonded to each other with a binder (not shown in the drawing) on the collector 20 composed of, for example, copper. The negative electrode 5 further includes carbon fibers 18. Since the carbon fibers 18 are thin and long compared to the particles 17, these are disposed in the interstices between the negative-electrode active material particles 17. Since the nonaqueous electrolyte solution can be immersed in the overall interstices between the negative-electrode active material particles 17, this configuration can improve the retention of the nonaqueous electrolyte solution. In the present invention, carbon flakes 19 are also included in the negative-electrode active material particles 17. Since the carbon flakes 19

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